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unanswered, and the civilization and the people supporting it went into decline.

Without following him into all the avenues of thought and experience that he treads in his book, it will suffice here to say that he holds the modern Western civilization to have drained excessively its stronger stock, its leader-producing stock, and also finds that stock now to be failing to reproduce itself.

Speaking specifically of England, Professor McDougall says: "The operation of the social ladder tends to concentrate the valuable qualities of the whole nation in the upper strata, and to leave the lowest strata depleted of the finer qualities"—a process which makes for powerful leadership, so long as the raw material is produced. But the lowest strata cannot be depended upon to yield from its depleted stock all or most of the leadership, to be sent upward along the social ladder. The stock at the top of the ladder must reproduce itself, if adequate leadership is to be had. And there is the rub. For," says Professor McDougall, "the upper strata . . . becomes relatively infertile. The causes are varied and complex and in the main psychological: late marriage, celibacy, and the restrictions of the family after marriage are the main factors."

What he has said about England in these lines applies in varying degrees to the other leading nations of the Western World. What of the United States? "Fortunately, in this country," he says in his concluding paragraphs, "there is widely diffused a belief in the value of science and of its application to human life. You have many keen workers adding to the sum of knowledge and you have a widespread tendency to be guided by it. Therein lies your hope for the future."

It is a book to read and ponder upon.

THE PROBLEM OF FOREIGN POLICY—A Consideration of Present Dangers and the Best Methods for Meeting Them.  
By *Gilbert Murray*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. Pp. I-XXVIII, 124. \$1.50.

This is a book well worth reading, especially as the Disarmament Conference draws nearer, for Professor Murray brings to bear a sane perception of the world's ills and a fine habit of sound thinking. He is a League of Nations man, but that need not disturb those in this country who oppose the League, while seeking the end the framers of the League sought. Assume the denial of the League by President Harding to be final; there remain the great facts that caused innumerable men and women to turn to the League as the way out. And the cry for a way out still is heard throughout the world. The author states these facts, and the fundamental principle upon which the way out must be based, with a strength and fervor and clarity that will be beneficial to all.

Not only was the world thrown into wreckage by the war, creating many new problems that seem almost insoluble, but, says Professor Murray in his able preface: "I think few serious students of public affairs will dispute that the long strain of the war, confusing our ideas of good and evil, and at times centering our hopes upon things which a normal civilized man regards with loathing, has resulted in a widespread degradation of political conduct. Things are done now, in time of peace, which would have been inconceivable before 1914. And they are done now because we grew accustomed to worse things during the war." He adds that Thucydides remarked that one of the worst things about war is that it takes away your freedom, and puts you in a region of necessity, and in that region we become accustomed to the doing of ugly, impossible things. Writing as an Englishman, he cites, in this regard, the terms to which the Allies were compelled to comply, to get Italy into the war on their side.

Such is the basic condition in which the world finds itself, as it surveys itself after the defeat of the Germans. What is the remedy? In a word, the mobilization of the ethical, the moral, force of mankind. Professor Murray says that he does not make a demand that the statesmen of the world follow absolutely the Sermon on the Mount, as the fundamental of the new order that must be had for the salvation of the world. He does not hope that mankind is in readiness

to act in perfect accord with that concept as yet, although he thinks the statesmen will be benefited by rather more study to the Sermon than they are in the habit of giving. But he does call for "a return to a standard of public conduct which was practised, or at least recognized, by the best governments of the world before the war, and which now seems to have been shaken, if not shattered." He criticizes his own government boldly in this connection.

What he has to say about armaments is impressive. "It is said," he writes, "that Great Britain has actually made the greatest reduction, but both in numbers of men and in expenditure our standard is fantastically higher than what was forced upon us by German competition in 1914. . . . The vast size of the navy appears to be utterly unjustified, at any rate by conditions in Europe. The French army is far beyond the economic powers of France to support. The same seems to be true of Italy, and is certainly true of Serbia. . . . Greece is vastly overarmed."

SOCIAL WORKERS' GUIDE TO THE SERIAL PUBLICATIONS OF REPRESENTATIVE SOCIAL AGENCIES. Edited by *Elsie M. Rushmore*. The Russell Sage Foundation, New York City. Pp. 174. \$3.50 net.

Here is a work of reference of much value to students and to responsible administrators; and all based on the reports of approximately 4,000 institutions and organizations whose publications are on the library shelves of the Russell Sage Foundation. It is a co-operative work and assembles the results of the labors of some of the best social welfare experts of the country, and these co-ordinated and edited by the editor. If, as is claimed by sociologists, economists, and social historians, so much of the world's preventive and remedial labor, registered formally in the publications listed in this volume, is due to war as well as to disease, famine, and vice, we would have supposed that the societies that have labored for generations to end war would have found hospitality on this list. The ADVOCATE OF PEACE as far back as 1828 was saying for its constituency what is now the common talk about war as hostile to social betterment. All phases of humane "internationalism" find representation on this list, save those of law, diplomacy, and politics. Chiefs of police, factory inspectors, "big brothers and sisters," white-slave traders, eugenists, and longshoremen, in their international relations, are recognized; but jurists, diplomats, and makers of international law and framers of national policies are omitted, save in one case. There is a reference to the Lake Mohonk Conferences.

REVOLUTION AND DEMOCRACY. By *Frederick C. Howe*. B. W. Huebsch, Inc., New York City. Pp. 234. \$2.00.

Mr. Howe is one of the older Progressives of the country who, as he has grown older, has turned to the left and not to the right, as most liberals are wont to do as age creeps on and economic fear obtrudes. Always better informed than most of his countrymen as to Europe's experimentation with socialism in its milder forms, and for a long time critic of the administrative and legislative processes of his own government in meeting social problems, Mr. Howe has come to be a prolific propagandist for causes of a revolutionary sort now finding ready and docile adherents, owing to the experiences of men since the war began in 1914.

This book, on its surface, shows the marks of hasty compilation for immediate use; but, even so, it is an arsenal of weapons for the critics of "privilege," whether that foe of democracy rears its head against educational, economic, or political reform. He sincerely believes that the Versailles Treaty was "the last word of capitalism that had become a system of world imperialism," but a world now in collapse, because through "sabotage" capitalism is destroying itself. He has little faith in modifications of the treaty of peace set up at Versailles, or in disarmament, or in reduction of burdens of taxation. Life will only be restored "when it produces freely, when it communicates freely, when it exchanges freely."